

GUIDELINES FOR LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES COMPETITIVE GRANT 2009

CADRE 1

Purpose: The Learning Technologies Competitive Grant Program offers an opportunity to improve core-subject classroom teaching and learning through the use of technology in Indiana schools. Funds awarded under this grant should support the acquisition of technology and the capacity to leverage the technology for student learning. The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) will fund Learning Technologies projects that align with the State Vision plan to ensure that the academic achievement and career preparation of all Indiana students will be the best in the United States and on par with the most competitive countries in the world. Important aspects of this plan include the following:

- Create and promote a statewide culture of academic excellence
- Improve instructional quality and enhance school governance and leadership
- Embrace innovative technologies and improve the operational efficiencies of learning support systems to facilitate student learning

Eligibility: To determine eligible school corporations for competitive grants, the IDOE created a Need Index that is based on the following criteria:

- Percentage of students in poverty
- A Local Educational Agency (LEA) serving at least one school in need of improvement under section 1116 of NCLB

An eligible public school corporation may submit a proposal as part of a partnership with another corporation or school that can demonstrate teachers are effectively integrating technology and proven teaching practices into core-subject classrooms. An eligible school corporation may submit and participate in only one proposal. A partnership will submit only one proposal with one budget; **the eligible corporation will act as the fiscal agent for each of the partners**. A list of eligible public school corporations and public school corporations who qualify to participate as a partner can be found at http://www.doe.in.gov/olr/docs/LTCgrant_09cadre1.pdf

A school corporation must comply with **Section 9501** regarding participation by private school teachers and children. (<http://www.ed.gov/legislation/ESEA02/pg111.html#sec9501>) As per federal legislation, private schools that serve low achieving, low performing students and teachers who are most in need are eligible to participate. Non-public schools must be able to actively participate in all areas of the proposed plan. Ownership of equipment remains with the LEA. Written documentation must be on file for all private schools that decline to participate.

Funding: This grant program is funded through the federal program Enhancing Education Through Technology Title II D. The funding schedule allows:

- \$50,000 for school corporations with an ADM less than 500 or only one school building
- \$50,000 for school corporations with an ADM of more than 500 with an additional \$15 for each ADM exceeding 500, not to exceed \$250,000

The grant proposal should support a strategic project or initiative aimed at leveraging technology for student learning. This project should be aligned to an approved 3-year Technology Plan filed with the IDOE.

Partner award amounts will be based on the following:

- 25% of the eligible school corporation award, but no less than \$25,000

As per federal regulations, **twenty-five percent (25%) of the total awarded funds must be used for professional development opportunities that promote innovative strategies for instruction and are designed to impact instructional quality in a sustainable and measurable way**. Each applicant will conduct interim evaluations of their projects to monitor their progress and success. The DOE will conduct an evaluation of each implementation as well.



Technical Assistance: IDOE will provide technical assistance through phone calls, emails, and scheduled phone conference. Feel free to contact us at any time in your proposal writing process. There will be two phone conferences to answer any questions and provide additional assistance as you prepare your proposal. The conference dates are:

May 11, 2009	2:00PM
May 14, 2009	11:00AM

Telephone number: 1 877 732 0228
Room Number: *5799275* (Enter the star key before and after your room number)

All proposals must be postmarked by May 29, 2009. Proposals postmarked after May 29, 2009 will not be considered for funding. Certified mail with return receipt or express delivery will provide proof of mailing date and document receipt by the IDOE. Please submit three copies of the proposal.

Mail proposal to:

Indiana Department of Education
Center for Information Systems
Learning Technologies Grant Program (Title II D)
Attn: Dr. John Keller
151 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2798

All hand delivered proposals must be at the IDOE by 4:00 PM on May 29, 2009.

Grant Proposal Application: The application has 6 sections. Please fill out all sections that are applicable to the proposal.

Section I, General Information: Please list all management team members for the proposed grant. Please include the teachers, technology personnel, library media specialists, principals and other personnel both from the eligible school corporation and from partner corporations/schools who will work on ensuring the success of this grant. Participating private/non-public school information shall also be listed in this section.

Section II, Abstract: The project abstract should offer a clear and concise summary of the learning needs addressed in the project and the proposed solution. It should provide a strong rationale for funding this project. (500 words maximum)

Section III, Grant Narrative:

Needs & Baseline Data – The needs section must address improvement in instructional practices related to current technology use in the classroom and its impact on student achievement and teacher practices. Be specific in describing the academic need as determined by student performance on ISTEP+, CORE 40 End-of-Course exams or as identified in the LEA's PL221 plans.

Goals and Objectives – Describe the student outcomes to be accomplished through this project. Objectives and goals should be strongly and clearly linked to student learning, Indiana Academic Standards, the School Improvement Plan and the needs as stated in *Needs & Baseline Data*. The objectives should be clearly measurable and describe how the goals will be met.

Methods and Activities – Specifically identify curricula and teaching strategies for using technology to enhance student achievement. Activities need to be developmentally appropriate and student-centered.

Professional Development – **Twenty-five (25%)** of the grant funds received must be used for professional development activities that will support the integration of technology into teaching and the curriculum.



Identify professional development needs and the specific plan for meeting those needs that ensures that the methods and activities you have described will be successful in reaching the project objectives.

Formative and Summative Evaluation – The project evaluation must measure results, not efforts. Describe how you will measure progress and success during the implementation of this project. IDOE will conduct a summative evaluation for the conclusion of the project.

Partnerships – Describe the partner school and the expertise that they will provide in the area of classroom use of educational technology. Discuss the provisions that will be made to ensure collaboration between teachers, parents, students, and community members for improved teaching and learning through technology.

Section IV, Budgets: There are two parts to the budget section, an Activities Budget and a Federal Budget. The Activities budget is a listing of all your expenditures by activity. List each activity/acquisition on a separate line. If there is a partnership, list all partner activities separate from the eligible corporation activities. The Federal Budget is a listing of your purchases by categories of activity defined by the Title II legislation. Round all figures to the nearest dollar. Your totals on both of the budgets should be the same. Funds up to 5% of the total grant may be used for administration and/or technical assistance. Funds may not be used to supplant existing programs or other funding commitments.

Hardware funds must be expended by September 30, 2009. The balance of the project including all professional development activities must be completed by September 30, 2010 and payment for services must be completed by December 31, 2010.

Sections V & VI, Assurances & Signatures: Signatures are required from the Superintendent and the Project Contact Person. Please read the Assurances section before signing.

You may download a copy of the 2009 grant rubric at <http://www.doe.in.gov/olr/LearningTechnologiesGrants.htm>

Contact Information:

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